Identifying Environmental Pollutants, Setting Priorities, and Building Partnerships through CARE–Milwaukee, WI

June 28, 2006

Panel Framework

- Brief overview of CARE

- CARE level I recipients will outline progress of their project, discuss diversity of partnership, and share the process in use to identify risks,.

- EPA project officers will discuss commitment and role of the Region in the partnership.

- Engage audience expertise – please offer tips/suggestions for identifying risks, engaging stakeholders, and increasing educational knowledge.

Panelists

- Sean Jacobs, Clean Air Council, Philadelphia, PA.

- Karen Thompkins, DeKalb County Board of Health, GA.

- Perry Pandya, EPA Region 3 Project Officer.

- Mary Jo Bragan, EPA Region 4 Project Officer.

What is CARE?

CARE is a **community-based, community-driven, program** created to build partnerships to help communities understand and reduce toxic risks from all sources.
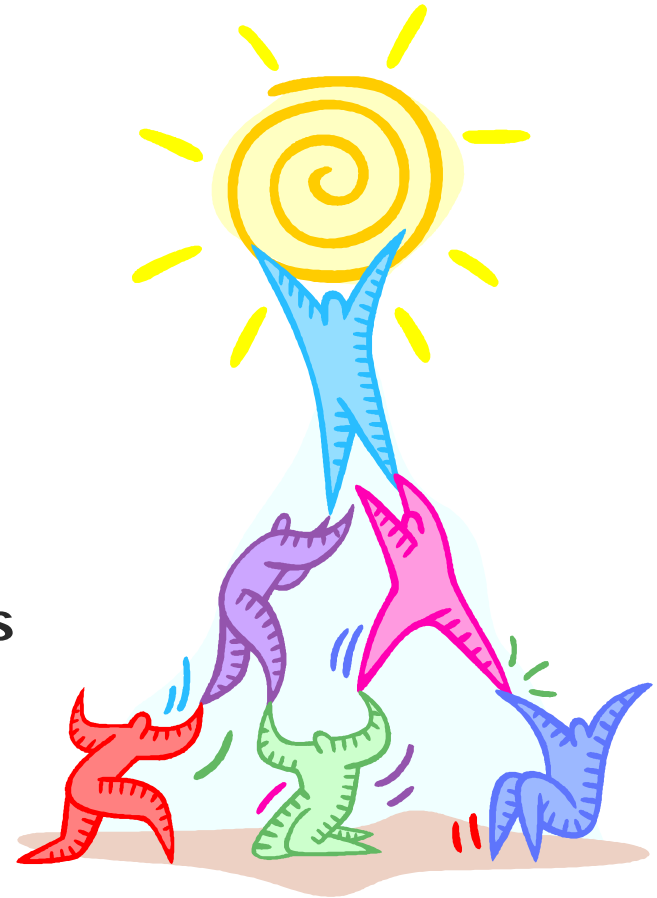
Why CARE?

- Respond to community requests for help
- Integrate agency programs to improve support for communities
- Mobilize new resources and use local knowledge to achieve results
- Develop community consensus on sources of risk and risk reduction options.

CARE Goals

- Reduce exposures to toxic pollutants through collaborative action at the local level

- Help communities gain an understanding of all potential sources of exposure to toxic pollutants

- Work with communities to set priorities for risk reduction activities

- Create self-sustaining, community based partnerships that will continue to improve the local environment

CARE Strategies

- **Provide information and a variety of tools to help communities understand and assess toxic risks**

- **Collaborate with community stakeholder groups to prioritize plans for risk reduction**

- **Mobilize local resources and utilize EPA voluntary programs to implement risk reduction activities**

- **Link EPA programs together to efficiently support communities**

CARE Strategies cont'd.

- Create a positive environment that encourages businesses to join the collaborative partnership

- Facilitate networking among CARE communities to share experiences and lessons learned

- Provide opportunities for colleges and universities to expand community partnerships

- Build long-term community capacity to continue improving the local environment

How CARE Works

1. Join Together

2. Identify Problems and Solutions

Level I Agreement

EPA Cooperative Agreements & Technical Support

Level II Agreement

4. Become Self-Sustaining
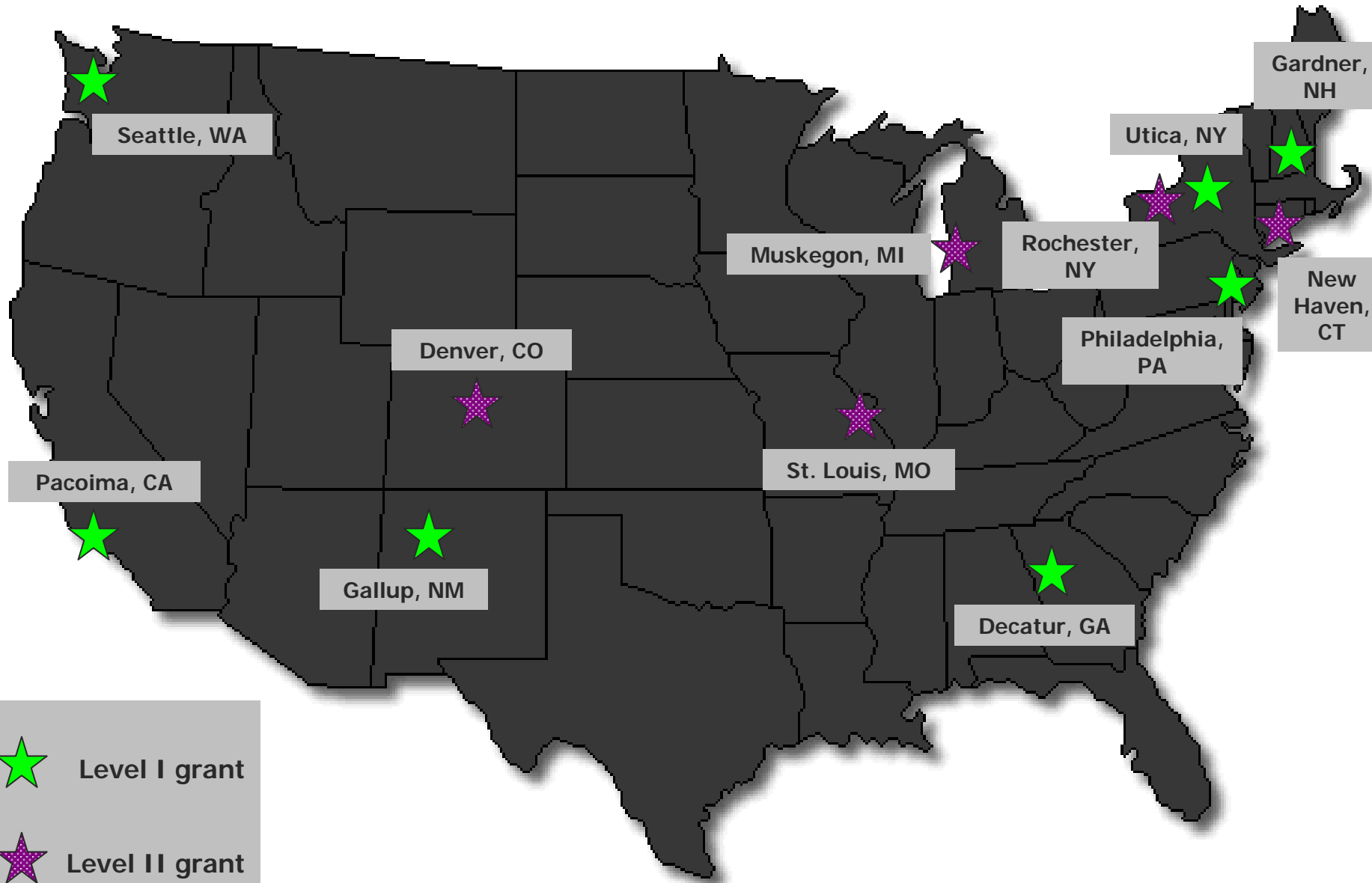
3. Implement Solutions/ Reduce Risks

CARE is More than Money

EPA works directly with communities to provide:

- Technical support and information

- Scientific expertise and assessment

- Community planning to help identify and reduce risks

- EPA voluntary programs

- Networking opportunities

- Shared Learning

2005 CARE Communities

Seattle, WA

Gardner, NH

Utica, NY

Muskegon, MI

Rochester, NY

New Haven, CT

Denver, CO

Philadelphia, PA

Pacoima, CA

St. Louis, MO

Gallup, NM

Decatur, GA

★ Level I grant

★ Level II grant

CARE Contacts

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